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E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJECT: CCD: 748TH PLENARY SESSION, APRIL 28TH AND 29TH,
1977

REFS: (A) STATE 93812; (B) GENEVA 3125

1. SUMMARY: 748TH PLENARY SESSION WAS HELD APRIL 28.

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EGYPT MADE BRIEF POSITIVE STATEMENT ON CTB INDICATING
WILLINGNESS TO BE "AMONG THE FIRST" SIGNATORIES TO A CTBT.
MEXICO MADE LENGTHY, SOMEWHAT REPROACHFUL STATEMENT
FOCUSSING ON SALT AND CTB AND PROPOSED SETTING UP CTB
WORKING GROUP AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER SESSION. PAKISTANE
ASSESSED 1977 SPRING SESSION, MAKING GENERAL STATEMENT
WHICH DEALT WITH NUCLEAR WEAPON FREE ZONES (NWFZ),

STRNGTHENING SECURITY OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES, ENMOD, MDW, CW, AND CTB. NETHERLANDS MADE BRIEF STATEMENT INTRODUCING WORKING PAPER ON VERIFICATION OF PRESECNCE OF NERVE AGENET IN WASTE WATER NEAR CHEMICAL PRODUCTION FACILITIES, US MADE STATEMENT ASSESSING 1977 SPRING SESSION (STATE 93812). USSR MADE DETAILED STZTMET SUMMARIZING PRESENT STATE-OF-PLAY OF ISSUES IN CCD. COMMITTEE DISCUSSED FOUR PROPOSALS: CO-CHAIRMEN'S PROPOSAL TO SET TENTATIVE DATE FOR MDW INFORMALS (GENEVA 3125); SWEDISH PROPOSAL TO SET TENTATIVE DATES FOR FOURTH MEETING OF SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP; ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO "TAKE NOTE," AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER SESSION, OF ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CW; AND MEXICO INTRODUCED NON-ALIGNED GROUP OF FIFTEEN PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUPS EARLY IN SUMMER SESSION ON THOSE TOPICS WHICH CCD FEELS TO BE RIPE FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY

2. THE 748TH PLENARY SESSION OF THE CCD CONVENED MORNING, APRIL 28 WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN CHAIR. EGYPTIAN REP (EL-SHAFEI) MADE BRIEF, CAREFULLY STUDIED STATEMENT ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB). HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE US AND USSR TO FACILITATE NEGOTIATION OF ACTBT AND TO ENTRUST CCD WITH IMPORTANT ROLE IN EVENTUAL NEGOTIATION PROCESS. EGYPTIAN REP SUPPORTED SOVIET DRAFT CTBT AS BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION, BUT SAID THAT VERIFICATION SYSTEM CONTAINED IN SWEDISH DRAFT (PARTICULARLY PROVISION FOR CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OR A SIMILAR BODY OF EXPERTS) WAS ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TO GOE. BENEFITS OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, HE SAID, SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES (NNWSS), BUT PNES SHOULD BE PROVIDED ONLY UNDER EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION TO ENSURE NO WEAPONS-RELATED BENEFITS WOULD BE ACQUIRED. VIEWING CTBT AS MEANS OF IMPROVING PRESENT NPT REGIME, HE CALLED FOR ADHERENCE BY "POTENTIAL NUCLEAR STATES" AS WELL AS "ALL NUCLEAR POWER STATES," AND IN CLOSING, STATED THAT EGYPT WOULD BE AMONG FIRST TO SIGN AN EFFECTIVE CTBT.

3. MEXICAN REP (GARCIA-ROBLES) USED FLOOR OF CCD AS SOAP-BOX TO PRESENT HIS PERCEPTION OF US/USSR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP AND CHIDE SUPERPOWERS FOR UNNECESSARILY DELAYING CONCLUSION OF A STBT. MEXICAN REP PRONOUNCED RECENT VANCE-MOSCOW VISIT AN EXPECTED FAILURE, REFERRING TO US PROPOSALS IN SARCASTIC TONE AS "TRULY NOVEL IN NATURE" AND EXPRESSED MOCK SURPRISE AT WHAT HE FELT TO BE UNREASONABLE SOVIET REACTIONS OF "ASTONISHMENT" AND "INDIGNATION" AT US PROPOSALS. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US AND USSR WOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME "UNFAVORABLE ENVIRONMENT" WHICH SURROUNDED INITIAL BILATERAL ENCOUNTER AND THAT THE MAY TALKS IN GENEVA

WOULD BE THE BEGINNING OF SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS TO SOLVE DIFFERENCES AND "MOVE TOWARD ACHIEVING IMPORTANT QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS AND SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS" IN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR-WEAPON SYSTEMS AS URGED REPEATEDLY BY THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. MEXICAN REP THEN TURNED TO CTB AND PROCEEDED TO GIVE CCD DELS LENGTHY LECTURE ON HISTORY OF CTB SINCE 1954. HE CHARGED US AND USSR WITH NEEDLESSLY DELAYING CONCLUSION OF A CTBT OVER ADHERENCE AND VERIFICATION ISSUES AND CALLED ON THE NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES TO SUSPEND NUCLEAR-WEAPON TESTING "BY AGREEMENT OF UNILATERALLY" PENDING CONCLUSION OF A CTBT. HE SUGGESTED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN, AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER SESSION, TO THE ADVISABILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE A DRAFT CTBT AND SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THIS WAS FULLY JUSTIFIED IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT TWO DRAFT TEXTS HAD BEEN INTRODUCED ON THE SUBJECT. IN CLOSING, MEXICAN REP EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE CO-CHAIRMEN WOULD PUT CCD'S RECESS TO GOOD USE AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RETURN TO SUMMER SESSION READY TO MAKE REAL PROGRESS ON CTB.

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4. PAKISTAN REP (YUNUS) MADE INTERESETING, SUMMARY STATEMENT REMINDING DELS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES STILL TO BE MET IN DISARMAMENT DECADE. HE CALLED ON THE THIRD WORLD TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN DISARMAMENT FIELDS DIRECTLY RELATED TO IT, PARTICULARLY NUCLEAR-WEAPON FREE ZONES AND PRESSED FOR SECURITY ASSURANCES OT NNWSS AGAINST A "NUCLEAR VISITATION." IN COMMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION (ENMOD) CONVENTION, PAKISTAN REP SAID THAT WHILE IT "MAY NOT BE PERFECT" IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"MAY WELL BE THE BEST IN THE PREVALENT CIRCUMSTANCES" AND THEN ANNOUNCED THAT GOP IS GIVING ACTIVE AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO BECOMING A PARTY TO IT. HE MENTIONED MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW) CALLING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS "HELPFUL" DESPITE THE FACT THAT NO SOLUTION TO DEFINITION PROBLEM HAD BEEN REACHED. ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW), PAKISTANI REP EXPRESSED VIEW THAT QUESTION IS REALLY ONE OF BUILDING MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND THAT A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WOULD COME THROUGH A POLITICAL DECISION. HE COMMENDED CO-CHAIRMEN FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT IN THIS AREA AND ANTICIPATED FURTHER PROGRESS IN US/USSR EFFORTS. PAKISTANI REP TURNED TO CTB AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH SOVIET DRAFT PROVISION FOR ON-SITE INSPECTION, BUT CHALLENGED SOVIET REQUIREMENT FOR RATIFICATION BY ALL NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATES FEARING IT WOULD "TURN THE CONVENTION INTO A NON-AGREEMENT." COMMENTING ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS (PNES), HE UPHELD VIEW THAT PNES NEEDED TO BE REGULATED WITHIN THE CONTENT OF A CTB BECAUSE "IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TECHNOLOGY OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON EXPLOSION AND THAT OF AN EXPLOSION FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES." IN CLOSING, HE CALLED FOR A MORATORIUM ON PNES UNTIL AN ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT ON THEIR CONTROL CAN BE CONCLUDED.

5. NETHERLANDS REP (VAN DER KLAAUW) MADE BRIEF STATEMENT INTRODUCING NETHERLANDS WORKING PAPER (CCD/533) ON VERIFICATION OF PRESENCE OF NERVE AGENTS IN WASTE WATER NEAR CHEMICAL PRODUCTION FACILITIES. HE FOCUSSED HIS REMARKS ON THE "CONSIDERABLELY HIGHER" MILITARY THREAT

POSED BY NERVE AGENTS AND SAID THAT, IN GON VIEW, THEY HAVE NO LEGITIMATE USE. HE CALLED METHOD CONTAINED IN CCD/533 "NON-INTRUSIVE IN CHARACTER" AND SAID THAT CERTAIN PRECURSORS OF BINARY WEAPONS COULD BE DETECTED AS WELL AS NERVE AGENTS.

6. US REP (MEYERS) DELIVERED STATEMENT CONTAINED STATE 93812 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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7. USSR REP (LIKHACHEV) MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT ASSESSING 1977 SPRING SESSION IN WHICH STANDARD ORDERING OF RPRIORITY ISSUES (CTB, MDW AND CW) WAS REORDERED GIVING CW PRECEDENCE OVER MDW; USSR REP DID NOT EXPAND ON PREVIOUS STATEMENTS MADE ON THESE ISSUES. IN COMMENT ON COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATION PROGRAM (CNP), HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE MANY DIFFERENT OPINIONS EXPRESSED ON THIS QUESTION CCD WAS UNABLE TO COME TO A DECISION ON IT; HE SUGGESTED THAT SOVIET MEMORANDUM MIGHT SERVE AS BASIS FOR DOCUMENT ELABORATING A CNP. USSR REP REITERATED SUPPORT FOR "ESTABLISHED AND WELL-PROVED" ORGANIZATIONAL BASIS OF THE CCD AND EXPRESSED DESIR THAT AS LITTLE TIME AS POSSIBLE BE LOST ON PROCEDURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEBATES. HE PUSHED CONSENSUS PROCEDURE AND CO-CHAIRMANSHIP AS CORRESPONDING TO "THE REALITIES OF THE WORLD TODAY," HE ALSO REVIEWED THE CCD DECISIONS TAKEN ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS DURING SPRING SESSION. IN CLOSING, HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM FOR SUMMER SESSION AND HOPE THAT CCD WOULD BE ABLE TO PROCEED TO NEGOTIATING TEXTS OF "APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS."

8. COMMITTEE DEBATED FOUR PROPOSALS AND AGREED TO POSTPONE TAKING DECISIONS ON THEM UNTIL APRIL PLENARY. PROPOSALS BEING CONSIDERED ARE:

A. CO-CHAIRMEN'S PROPOSAL TO SET TENTATIVE DATE FOR MDW INFORMALS (GENEVA 3125)

B. SWEDISH PROPOSAL TO SET TENTATIVE DATES FOR FOURTH MEETING OF SEISMIC EXPERTS GROUP;

C. ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO "TAKE NOTE", AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER SESSION, OF ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CW; AND

D. MEXICO INTRODUCED NON-ALIGNED GROUP OF FIFTEEN PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUPS EARLY IN SUMMER SESSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON THOSE TOPICS WHICH CCD FEELS TO BE RIPE FOR SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS.

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9. USSR REP COULD NOT APPROVE COMMUNIQUE AS READ AND ASKED
THAT ALL DELS BE ABLE TO HAV IT IN WRITING BEFORE ACCEPTING
IT. SECRETARIAT AGREED TO PROVIDE COPIES TO ALL DELS.
(COMMENT: USSR REP OBJECTED TO MEXICAN INCLUSION OF DEROGATORY
REMARKS ON US/USSR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IN DOCUMENT WHICH,
ACCORDING TO CCD/532, SHOULD MERELY SUMMARIZE IN A GENERAL
FASHION, SUBJECTS ADDRESSED BY DELS DURING PLENARY.) MEETING
WAS RECESSED UNTIL MORNING, APRIL 29.
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10. THE 748TH PLENARY OF THE CCD RECONVENED MORNING, APRIL 29, WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA STILL IN CHAIR. CHAIRMAN RE-READ COMMUNIQUE WHICH HAD BEEN AMENDED, DELETING LANGUAGE OBJECTED TO BY USSR REP (LIKHACHEV). USSR REP

MADE BRIEF REMARKS ON COMMUNIQUE IN CONTEXT OF CCD/532 AND EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT FORUM SHOULD NOT PUBLICLY CONCERN ITSELF WITH BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS OF ITS MEMBERS. MEXICAN REP (GARCIA-ROBLES) RESPONDED AND REMINDED COMMITTEE OF GROUP OF 15 INTERPRETATION OF SECTION 4 OF CCD/532 AND STATED THAT MEXICO HAD NEVER INSTIGATED ANY OF THE "POLEMICAL INTERVENTIONS" MADE IN CCD. FOLLOWING THESE REMARKS, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED THE COMMUNIQUE, AS AMENDED, AND THE 748TH PLENARY WAS ADJOURNED.

11. NEXT PLENARY WILL CONVENED MORNING, APRIL 29, IMMEDIATELY AFTER ADOPTION OF COMMUNIQUE FOR 748TH PLENARY. SORENSON

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